Listing of the Claims

Following is a complete listing of the claims pending in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A method for the manufacture of a pharmaceutical tablet which upon oral ingestion delivers a first drug by immediate release and a second drug by prolonged release defined as a release rate into gastrointestinal fluid that is slow enough to leave at least about 40% of said second drug unreleased one hour after ingestion, said method comprising:

(a) dispersing said second drug in a solid matrix to form a unitary body which upon immersion in gastrointestinal fluid releases said second drug by prolonged release;

(b) depositing on a surface of said unitary body a polymeric film that is devoid of either said first drug or said second drug, said polymeric film formed from a polymer (i) effective to prevent interaction of the second drug and the first drug prior to administration of the dosage form[[,]] and (ii) which dissolves in gastrointestinal fluid upon ingestion;

(c) depositing over said polymeric film a fluid medium comprising said first drug and a liquid carrier that does not remove said polymeric film upon contact therewith; and

(d) evaporating said liquid carrier from said fluid medium thus deposited to leave a solid layer containing said first drug over said unitary body.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 in which said solid matrix is comprised of a member selected from the group consisting of celluloses, substituted celluloses, microcrystalline cellulose, polysaccharides, substituted polysaccharides, poly(alkylene oxide)s, poly(vinyl alcohol), starch, starch-based polymers, crosslinked poly(acrylic acid)s, and substituted crosslinked poly(acrylic acid)s.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 in which said solid matrix is comprised of a member selected from the group consisting of poly(ethylene oxide), hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose, and combinations of poly(ethylene oxide) and hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 in which said polymeric film is comprised of a member selected from the group consisting of poly(ethylene oxide),

hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose, polyvinyl alcohol, combinations of poly(ethylene oxide) and hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose, and combinations of polyvinyl alcohol and poly(ethylene oxide).

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which said fluid medium comprises a liquid solution of said first drug in a solvent.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which said fluid medium comprises a liquid solution of said first drug and a polymer in a solvent.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which said fluid medium comprises a suspension of said first drug in solid particle form in a liquid suspending agent.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which said fluid medium comprises a suspension of said first drug in solid particle form and a dispersing agent, also in solid particle form, in a liquid suspending agent, said dispersing agent being a substance that separates into discrete particles upon contact with gastrointestinal fluid.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which said fluid medium is an aqueous suspension of said first drug, and said first drug is comprised of particles having a weight-averaged diameter equal to or less than 25 microns.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which said fluid medium is an aqueous suspension of said first drug, and said first drug is comprised of particles having a weight-averaged diameter equal to or less than 10 microns.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which the weight ratio of said polymeric film to said unitary body is from about 0.005:1 to about 0.2:1.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which the weight ratio of said polymeric film to said unitary body is from about 0.01:1 to about 0.1:1.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which the weight ratio of said polymeric film to said unitary body is from about 0.01:1 to about 0.08:1.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which (b) comprises surrounding said unitary body entirely with said polymeric film, and said solid layer of (d) is a shell completely encasing said unitary body and polymeric film.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which (b) and (c) comprise depositing said polymeric film and said first drug over only a portion of the entire surface of said unitary body, leaving the remainder of said unitary body exposed.

16. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which said liquid carrier of step (c) is water.

17. (Original) The method of claim 1 in which said liquid carrier of step (c) is an organic solvent.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17 in which said organic solvent is comprised of a member selected from the group consisting of ethanol, hexanes, chloroform, carbon tetrachloride, and dimethyl sulfoxide.

19-46. (Cancelled)